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THE DAILY COMMERCIAL

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VIEWS OF A STATESMAN.

Senator Trumbull on Civil Service Reform and the Alabama Claims.

Senator Trumbull addressed his fellow-citizens in Chicago Tuesday evening on some of the most conspicuous questions of the day. After discussing the currency question he proceeded as follows:

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Passing from this consideration of the currency, I desire to call your attention to another evil existing in the Government, and which calls loudly for reform. I allude to the manner of selecting and appointing officers under the Federal Government. [Applause.] It is a crying evil, demoralizing in tendencies, and I do not know but I should be justified in saying, corrupting in many instances in its practice. It must be corrected, or you would have an economical and honest administration of your government. There are in the departments at Washington some fifty or four thousand clerks, and there are local officers, as you all know, scattered through all the Congressional districts over the United States. As long ago as General Jackson's time, I think it was, the doctrine was promulgated that to the victors belong the spoils; which, being interpreted, meant that when a party came into power in the Federal Government it had a right to appropriate all the offices to itself. To some extent that is probably correct. It is expected that any administration, having views and measures to carry out, would call around it its friends, rather than its enemies, to give effect to its policy; particularly where the officer was charged with a duty that required the exercise of discretion. Customary, and nearly all of these clerks in the departments have merely mechanical duties to perform. No discretion whatever is required. This doctrine, that to the victors belong the spoils, to the extent that it was carried may be very questionable. But we have not stopped with that. The doctrine now is, not only that to the victors belong the spoils, but that the spoils belong to that particular man in the party who happens to be a member of Congress. I say this the more particularly upon this subject here in Chicago, because, as far as I know, the appointments of Federal officers in the city of Chicago have not been controlled by the local members, but as a general rule, they have been controlled by the Representative from the district, who was friendly to the Administration throughout the country.

I wish to tell you how these appointments in the departments at Washington are made. Nearly all the clerks, or a great many of them, owe their positions there to the recommendation of some member of Congress, and I am told that, in some of the departments, where they have actually been opened, and members of Congress given credit for the appointments, when charged with the clerk when he is appointed. Now, if these persons were appointed simply on account of their fitness for the position, it would do; but the appointment is a reward for political services, and that is the principal qualification in hundreds of instance. A member, perhaps from Kansas, goes to Washington City, salaries in Washington with a friend who has come all the way from that State, and wants a clerkship in one of the departments. He says to the Secretary, "I have a friend here that I want to appoint clerk." The Secretary says, in effect, "There are no vacancies in my department. I have now more clerks than I have any use for." But this is a personal friend of mine. He stood by me in the canvass. He was in the nominating convention when I was nominated for Congress, and you must give him a place. It will not do for him to come home to Kansas, after having come here, without a position. You must turn somebody out, and give him a place." The Secretary looks over his list to see if there is any clerk who has not a member of Congress behind him [laughter]; and if he finds such a one, out he goes, and in comes a new man, who, perhaps, can neither spell nor write. [Laughter.] But suppose that a member of Congress stands behind every clerk. What is to be done? "O, give him a temporary place—give him temporary employment. Well, that is given temporary employment. The Secretary does not like to offend a member of Congress, because he has control of appropriations before the session is over, there comes down from the department a request for an appropriation of $100,000 to pay for extra clerk hire. How do you suppose the members from Kansas will vote on that bill? Why, not only have more clerks than you want, but you must pay the expenses of the government." Secretary Cox, *[loud applause]* who has just retired from the Interior Department—[thoroughly honest, conscientious and upright man, whose retirement I exceedingly regret—who was attempting to introduce some reforms into that department, tells you how it operated there, and you will pardon me for a reference or two from what he says upon the subject:

"The greater portion of the time of Cabinet officers is constantly occupied in hearing applications for petty places, and so long as personal solicitation governs such appointments this evil cannot be remedied. Instead of giving the best of our time and attention to the really important business of administration, as the people suppose we are doing, it is only the remnant of time that is available, and that after we have been dogged and harassed by a never-ceasing throng of importunate and their friends, who are supposed to be influential. This is almost as true to-day as it was last year. There is now and then but one which cuts up by the root the whole system of the dispensation of the government patronage as a matter of favor or of political claim, so-called. This dependence of appointees upon influence for their positions has led to such a assumption that members of Congress have the right to dictate appointments in their districts, and this is often done in utter ignorance of the qualifications possessed by the person for the applicant. Nothing is more common than for a demand to be made for appointments to the higher grades, or for promotions to them, as if experience in the public work had nothing to do with the matter, and as if merely a question of a greater or less share of the public patronage to the gentleman making the representation. It has been no uncommon thing to find in the departments new and youthful appointees drawing salaries and holding the grades of chiefs and important divisions, which old and experienced men were in fact doing the work on the pay of the lowest class clerk. The reason for it will be found to be that it has been done upon the importunate request of a prominent politician, who had political debts to pay in the form of patronage.

What an exhibition is this, of the condition of things, which has grown up at Washington under this system of controlling appointments by the member of Congress. But this not only prevails at Washington, but, unfortunately, also among the people, and a reform in this respect must come from the people because members of Congress, like men elsewhere, are not willing to let go some of that money, and that power and patronage which is valuable. It is used as a means to return to Congress again, and they come back to look after the local appointments in their districts absolutely. If a postmaster is to be appointed, the Representative in Congress from the district whom he must appoint. The member tells the Postmaster General that he must employ as clerks, and if he does not act accordingly, off goes the postmaster's head. And the thing goes further than that. Before the member goes to Congress, after the district is canvassed, a contract is promised, if he will succeed in sending delegates favorable to the District. Consequently, when he shall be appointed Assessor at Babylon, and another is told if he will carry particular precincts, he shall be appointed Collector of Whisky in Sodom [applause and laughter], and so the offices are farmed out. Now, what is the duty of the Representative in Congress, who has no more business to meddle with them than one of you, [it is in violation of the Constitution, which declares that these appointments shall be made by the Executive and the heads of Departments. Why the President and heads of Departments are necessarily compelled to recommends of some person of political influence—they do not want to say, members of Congress, but that is what it is.

EFFORT TO REMEDY THE EVIL.

So great has this evil grown at Washington, and the exhibition of it there has grown so unpleasant, not to say disgusting, where you see the ante-rooms of the Secretaries crowded with members of Congress taking up their time, as you are told, in pressing upon you to read to you, by pressing upon you the appointment of some clerk, who may be incompetent, that, when I saw it, it was with a desire to see it, I think you would feel as I did. I introduced at the last session of Congress a bill making it a penal offense for any member of Congress to recommend anybody for office at all. It was said, how is a department to get information to know who to appoint, unless the local member recommends candidates? I have been told

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1870.

PRACTICAL WORKINGS OF FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION.

Free Trade is the philosophy of utopian unreality; Protection is the philosophy of fact. The former is buttressed by theory; the latter is fortified by experiment. One contemplates mankind as rescued from the clutches of avarice, freed from the ingrained selfishness which leads individuals to aggrandize themselves at the expense of their fellows, and ready to practice the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you;" the other accepts the race as still actuated by the passions, propensities, foibles and motives of fallen human nature, and recognizes the necessity of erecting barriers against Argus-eyed encroachments, ever on the alert to subsidize opportunities, pervert advantages, overwhelm opposition, or creep to triumph through the serpentine windings of artifice and defraudment. Never yet has Free Trade, when subjected, even in a modified or restricted form, to the crucial test of actual trial, failed to find SCYLLA and CHARYBDIS in practice and experience. Nor do we have to go far in search of a convincing illustration of this universal truth.

Let us take the slaveholding South as an example in point. Before the rebellion that section, for all that is germain to our present purpose, was virtually a distinct country, separated from the North by that notorious boundary, MASON and DIXON'S line. In manners and customs; in local institutions and laws; in habits of thought and modes of life, the people were signally segregated from their fellow-citizens of the Union There, too, was the abiding place and fostering home of free trade in the United States. Opposition to manufacturing industry took the form of an idiosyncratic manifestation. To labor in a factory, in a workshop, in a cotton mill, at once precipitated the contempt of the influential classes of society, and carried the badge of degradation. Engrossed almost wholly with agriculture, and apprehensive for the safety and perpetuity of slavery, the plantation interest had habitually discountenanced investments in furnaces, forges, mills, factories, iron works and like enterprises. It is true, a few far-sighted capitalists, appreciating the exhausting and prostrating tendencies and influences of this foolish policy, attempted, time and again, to break through the meshes of the prejudice that made such a condition of affairs possible; but these undertakings generally proved pecuniary failures, and were abandoned, on account of the systematic discouragement to which they were unsparingly subjected. Here and there, a few shrewd, intelligent, energetic men succeeded, after large losses, extensive experiment, dear-bought experience and indomitable efforts, in making a lodgment, never, however, securing that ratio of profitable returns which the same enterprise would have netted in the North. Inasmuch as the enforced ignorance of servile labor failed to meet the demands of manufacturing skill, and slaves could be made useful as operatives in factories only in cases of exceptional intelligence, the plantation lords everywhere regarded industrial undertakings on a large scale as growing nests of poor white laborers, full of pestilential and destructive influences upon the peculiar institution. In this light, any attempt on the part of Northern immigrants to introduce workmen or workwomen from the free States, in aid of manufacturing ventures, became an especially repugnant to the masses of the Southern people, and was followed by their most withering hostility.

Amid such unfavorable surroundings, it became impossible to stimulate the arts of reproduction into any healthy or wide-spread development. While nature had lavished her gifts of coal, iron, lead, copper, limestone, marble and other mineral treasures upon the South, that section preferred not to utilize these opulent possessions, or to diversify its pursuits, but devoted itself almost exclusively to the growth of a few great agricultural staples. The people adopted into practice that specious postulate of the cosmopolite communist—to buy where you can buy the cheapest, and sell where you can sell the dearest." As a consequence, nearly every article of manufacture was either of foreign or of Northern production. Going into a planter's home, the eye could alight upon scarcely an object which had not been imported from the free States. Strip him of the apparel which Northern machinery and labor had fabricated, and he would have stood stark naked. From bonnet to shoe, his wife and daughters were equally dependent. When, as night closed around his dwelling, and the parlor lamp was lit, everything, the table, the book, the wick, the match, as well as the table cloth and the table it covered, with the carpet beneath—had come from the North. Every ax, hoe, plow, trace-chain, and other implements of husbandry used on his plantation, nine chances in ten, had been derived from the same source. To such an extent did this wholesale dependence proceed, that nearly all the school books, house and kitchen furniture, clothing, hats, boots and shoes, wagons, carriages, carts and wheelbarrows, locomotives, railroad cars and rails, steam boilers and engines—in a word, almost every manufactured article, from a piano to a shoe-peg, from an overcoat to a button, from an encyclopædia to a primer —was imported, from year to year, from the North.

Such was the deplorable lack of self-reliance, and such the firmly established dependence, when treason precipitated the two sections into war, and the blockade began to operate with all the force and meaning of statutory protection to Southern industry, the more innovating and compulsory because in the nature of a prohibitory tariff.

At first the effect was felt but little. Vast quantities of the commodities most in demand were already on hand. For a period these supplied all current wants; but, as by degrees, these accumulations were exhausted, community was driven to the unwelcome necessity of home production, in the midst of difficulties of the most extraordinary and harassing description. Nearly all the skilled laborers in the seceding States being of Northern birth and loyal convictions, had hastened home at the first distinct indications of hostilities. Thus there was not only a tormenting lack of competent workmen, but a most disheartening insufficiency of tools and machinery. Very few mines having been opened, furnaces erected and forges built, there was a corresponding deficiency of metallic raw materials. The inexorable need of these elements caused a resort to smuggling through the blockade mechanics, apparatus and implements for carrying on certain manufacturing undertakings, though the supply from that source was necessarily limited and unsatisfactory. But, in spite of all obstacles, wood's name was legion, these surreptitious additions to the list of means proved powerful and invaluable motors of industrial progress. The newly introduced experts became instructors of others, while the imported machinery and tools served, to a considerable extent, as patterns for duplication. As it became known how extensive were the profits from these various adventures, capital was diverted from other pursuits, and found remunerative employment in manufacturing enterprises. The rebel government, perceiving the excellent and far-reaching influences of these undertakings, added to many of them the stimulus of exemption from military duty.

As the war progressed, and the people were thrown more and more upon their own resources, home industry was developed, diversified and utilized to an astonishing degree, and far beyond the most sanguine anticipations. The production of manufactures soon exceeded by a thousandfold what it had been during the piping times of peace. Nearly every home had its spinning-wheel and hand-loom, whose whir and rattle filled the land. Homespun was the only wear. Foreign or northern fabrics of all kinds had almost entirely disappeared. A multitude of factories of various descriptions dotted the landscape where none had been before. Ignorant laborers had been transformed into skilled workmen. Hundreds of new industries had been naturalized. This, too, was in the midst of wide-spread devastation and exhaustion caused by the march, conflict and sustenance of immense armies, which abstracted from the population nearly every robust man of arms-bearing ages.

To make a complete enumeration of the long list of manufactures which grew out of the necessities of the Southern situation, would more than fill a column. Numerous as they were, they were due to the application of the principle of protection, in its extreme form, as exemplified by the blockade. Cannon, guns, gunpowder, percussion caps, cavalry, infantry and artillery equipments, military cloth and clothing, sulphur, lead, saltpeter, with a multitude of like materials, were a share of these native products. Friction matches, cotton cards, letter and newspapers, potash, salt, buttons, osnaburgs, shirtings, sheetings, jeans, earthenware—an innumerable list—all made by machinery, formed another part of the domestic economy. Southern literature, too, received an impetus it never felt before. Publishing houses sprang up in Mobile, Richmond and other cities presenting to the reading public not only the works of native, but also reprints of various foreign authors. The inventive genius of the South, which had lain dormant for generations, was called into sudden and powerful activity under the incentives of the occasion. This ability, it is true, usually took the direction of military wants, but its advancements were none the lessignal and significant. One of the best and most rapid percussion cap machines of the period was the device of a Southern man. In the construction of iron-clads and torpedoes, many new and important principles were introduced by ingenious and talented rebels. All the various Southern manufactures, owing to the peculiar difficulties of the situation, were necessarily rough and crude. They were, however, each and all successful beginnings of an extensive system of home industry, under the influences of what was equivalent to a prohibitory tariff. Moreover, never before had the Southern mind been so individualized and developed in the direction of its highest endowments. Powers which had long remained dormant through lack of incentive, and which had ever been unknown to their several possessors, were evoked into powerful and useful activity.

The fierce ordeal through which the Southern people thus passed so unwillingly completely opened the eyes of their thinking men to the folly and delusion of free trade. Its theoretical excellence and glittering generalities became the trash of nonsense in the presence of crucial experiment. As the lances of the sun rout the mists of morning, so disappeared the unsubstantial and visionary arguments of free trade, before the stubborn array of facts which stared everybody in the face every day for years. These tests of practice reversed the convictions of the great mass of the people. The South is no longer a free trade South. For proof of this we need look no further than a recent publication by the Free Trade League of New York, giving a record of the action of the members of the House of Representatives on the tariff question, during the Forty-first Congress. That pamphlet classifies the seceding States, excepting Texas and Georgia, which were not represented, as having six free traders, twenty-eight protectionists and seven wavering, or, in other words, moderate protectionists. The wonderful change of representative sentiment is due mainly to the South's bitter experience of the practical workings of cosmopolitan communism during the rebellion.

In future struggles on the tariff question, we may and shall look confidently to the South, with its eyes completely opened at last, for no little help on the floors of Congress. We have in that section eight hundred thousand colored voters, who are almost without exception laboring men, who are keenly alive to all that affects their welfare and prosperity, and who will prove a powerful arm upon which we can safely lean in the very crisis and climax of the conflict, just as loyalty leaned upon them in the days of armed treason and belligerent traitors. The South that was once an element of weakness is henceforth to be an element of strength; and the cotton fields that formerly bloomed into free trade will bourgeon hereafter into protection.

JEFFERSON DAVIS UPON ROBERT E. LEE.

Last week was the closing one of an active political campaign, and the speeches that were delivered are beyond numbering; yet what was in some respects the most remarkable political utterance of the week was the one farthest removed from politics in its occasion. Though it could not be intended for a party harangue it will probably do more than all else that has been said upon the same side of the question, in keeping alive and in force the most dangerous political heresy that this nation has known.

The speech in question was that of MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS, at a meeting of Confederate soldiers in Richmond, on last Thursday evening, to start a LEE Association and to provide a monument for the late ROBERT E. LEE. MR. DAVIS spoke of General LEE as his classmate at West Point, and bosom friend through life. His eulogy of his brother chieftain of the rebellion was warm and earnest, and seems almost to have been borrowed from the eulogiums upon that other great Virginia General, GEORGE H. THOMAS, who died a short time since without receiving any praise from these men for the qualities that they so commend in LEE. But the explanation of General LEE'S treachery to the United States is the interesting part of the speech. MR. DAVIS argues that LEE owed nothing to the general government for its education of him at West Point, and its especial favoring of him afterwards in the army. Says this casuistical ex-President:

> "Virginian born, descended from a family illustrious in Virginia's annals, given by Virginia to the service of the United States, he represented her in the Military Academy at West Point. He was not educated by the Federal Government, but by Virginia, for she paid her mill stock for the support of the institution, and was entitled to demand in return the services of her sons. In entering the army of the United States, he represented Virginia there also, and nobly."

Yet a little farther on he relates how LEE, when Captain of Engineers and stationed at Baltimore, refused the offer of the leadership made by the Cuban Junta. This was upon account of all the complications that might ensue, but "the simple question was whether it was right or not?" He had been educated by the United States, and felt wrong to accept a place in the army of a foreign power." Certainly the succeeding years until 1861, in which LEE was gradually promoted to a Colonelcy and became a member of the personal staff of General SCOTT, did not lessen his obligations to the United States, or make less sophistical the claim that he did not owe his education to the nation. The only reason then impelling him to draw his sword against his benefactors when Virginia with drew, was the false view of State rights, that caused secession and the war. General LEE entrusted the question of secession to the arbitrament of war. The decision was against him, and he accepted it.

If the people of the South regard LEE'S memory as tenderly as they claim to, it would seem fitting for them not to renew the strife upon questions which he considered to have been settled by the war. If it pleases them to make speeches about his generalship and valor, and to raise monuments in honor of his manliness and Christian virtues, it certainly harms no one for them to do so. But they do not inspire reverence for the memory of General LEE, when they turn their attention to his treachery to the United States, and try to defend it according to those principles for which he and they fought. In 1861 they agreed to decide in battle the right of State secession, and the result was against them. General LEE accepted the decision in good faith, it is asserted, and tried to live as became a citizen of an indivisible United States. Why then do his followers insult the example he has given them since 1865 by preaching, as MR. DAVIS does, in his constant reference to the fifteen Confederate States as "our country" that the question of secession is still an open one for them to renew the conflict? If they have true regard for General LEE, the Southern people will profit by the example of his later life, in endeavoring to secure prosperity for a united country by quiet attention to personal and civic duties, without unsettling affairs in the discussion of dead issues.

Police Sergeant Ward and thirteen men, all belonging to the Philadelphia police, are in prison at Camden, N. J., charged with participating in the Newton township disturbance, where the ballot boxes were destroyed on yesterday.

ENTIRE SUBJUGATION THE END.

While it is impossible not to regret deeply the failure to effect an armistice, there seems to have been no reason to think that it would have resulted in the conclusion of peace. So long as Paris remains in their possession the French will not own themselves subjugated; until it has been taken, they will not *feel* themselves subjugated. This has all along been the opinion of foreigners who are best acquainted with the French people, and it is the opinion also of the best informed Frenchmen. M. GAILLARDET, for so many years the respectable Paris correspondent of the *Courrier des Etats Unis*, who is now in Brussels, having mentioned the latest French disasters, speaks of the "denouement of the drama" as presenting "this terrible embarrassment, that the deliverance of Paris by an army of relief has become so difficult as to be almost improbable, and, on the other hand, if the Provisional Government were to sign a treaty of peace abandoning Alsace and Lorraine, or even Alsace alone, it would without doubt, be accused of treason and overthrown by the people of Paris, who have not yet despaired of conquering. The people of Paris who have many faults but of which timidity is not one, can be reduced to submission only by force, that is by the united horrors of famine and bombardment."

There is, we suppose, not the slightest reason to expect that the German demand of territory which the French regard with so much horror, will be surrendered. The demand is understood to have proceeded from the people in the first place, and to have been adopted by BISMARCK against his own convictions of sound policy, if not of right.

Among the German people the exaction seems from the first to have been associated with the point of honor, as if, under the circumstances, it would be disgraceful not to take back the land of which they had been deprived by violence. And then, German sentimentalism enters as another element in the question. Their beloved kindred of Elsass and Lotheringen, people of the same race with themselves, speaking the same dear language, they must be no longer degraded to French domination. They must be reunited with their relations and share the splendid destinies of the new German empire. No matter how much their friends abhor the transfer and desire to remain as they have been. No matter how thoroughly French they may be in thought, sentiment and prejudice. They must be compelled to enjoy the offered blessings that they may learn to appreciate them. While a few Germans of character and influence strongly oppose annexation on any such grounds, the great mass of the nation appear firmly or even fanatically bent on carrying the point. Were BISMARCK to cease to insist on it, from being the most popular he would at once become the most unpopular man in Germany, and if King WILLIAM were to make peace on other terms, the old man would hardly feel secure of his crown. The duel must therefore continue, certainly so long as Paris holds out, and it may be longer. With no generally recognized government, France must, with the lapse of every day, grow less capable of self-collection and organic action necessary to the choice of a ruler, or even of a constituent assembly, and the prospect is that the entire country will be held and ruled for a time by its German conquerors. And then will have come to pass the words of PREVOST-PARADOL, who, only three years ago, predicting "a collision between France and Prussia as an event as inevitable as the collision of two railway trains approaching each other on the same track," declared that one of them would be ground to powder in the encounter. He did not pretend to foretell which of them would suffer that fate, but dark forebodings concerning his own country when he heard of the German army that would be the sacrificial thing to do with his calamitous death, so soon after his arrival in the United States.

THINGS IN ITALY.

Considerable interest still continues to attach to the condition of things in Italy. Though there is reason to believe that great multitudes of Roman Catholics, not only in this country but in Europe, would rather rejoice to see the temporal power of the Pope forever suppressed, yet the great majority of sincere Romanists regard the state of a temporal prince as essential to the independent exercise of the pontifical office. Hence a tremendous weight of opinion has been brought to bear upon VICTOR EMANUEL to prevent him from agreeing to the transfer of his capital to the Eternal City. The hope evidently is that something will turn up to restore the Papal See to its pristine state of sovereignty. The King of Italy is old and in feeble health, and is believed to be really afraid of the spiritual consequences of the papal anathema, which he would probably incur by yielding to the wishes of his people to see Rome the capital of their country. It is therefore, proposed to let matters remain as they are, while the present Pope lives. The next may be more inclined to make compromises, or less ready with his spiritual thunderbolts. PIUS IX. is a perfect *Puter tonans*, and is almost as prompt in the use of his old engine as a boy with his pop-gun or a young sportsman with his fowling-piece. If, however, foreign intervention, in some form or other, should not take place, it seems quite certain that Rome will be the capital of Italy, and the temporal power, if at all recognized, a very restricted dominion. In reference to foreign intervention we may not feel too sure. M. THIERS, though a Protestant, has always been a champion of the Pope's temporal power, and the cable represents him as promising that when the nations meet by their representatives in Congress, the matter shall be properly regulated. This is doubtless to be understood as a promise of restoration. In the present condition of France, however, the promise cannot be said to count for much. What Spain may be willing to do under the influence of the Duke of AOSTA, it is impossible to say. High Catholic prelates, as well as influential assemblies of the laity, are urging King WILLIAM to drive the Italians from Rome. They insist that the King has, on more than one occasion, made declarations to his Catholic subjects respecting the Head of their Church, which require him to interpose for his rescue just now. Though the King is a good Protestant, he doubtless desires the prayers and the good will of his Catholic subjects, and might like to oblige them. But in the face of the mighty sentiment of thinking, cultured, liberal Protestant Germany, his active interposition in Italy seems unlikely. Then, during the present war the Priests and Prelates, especially in Bavaria and Baden, have acted badly. While many of them have, no doubt, been loyal, very many of them have done all they could consistently with their own safety, to aid the French. It is impossible that any able ruler or statesman can with much zeal labor to promote the power of a being who claims to be infallible and also asserts the right to control and dictate the actions of his subjects, who are also the subjects of another sovereign. So that upon the whole, the Pope's prospect of interposition by Kings, whether Catholic or Protestant, is not very bright.

THEODORE KELL, who died a few days ago in Philadelphia, was a favorable specimen, a representative man of a class of foreigners, whose presence among us we owe to the oppression or conservatism of the old world. It is not yet too late to say a word concerning him, as it is probable that few of our readers have ever heard of him or even seen his name. If what those who knew him have said about him since his decease, is true, and we have no reason to doubt their statements, his industry, talents and activity would have made him widely and favorably known throughout the State, if he had used the English instead of the German language in his communications with the public. But among the Germans of Philadelphia and the eastern portion of Pennsylvania, he found a field for service which stood in much need of the labors of such a man, and he seems to have well performed the duties imposed upon him by his position. Mr. KELL arrived in Philadelphia in 1856, when he became connected with the German newspaper, the *Freie Presse* as one of the editors, and soon afterwards as sole editor, and with the exception of a short interval, he held the place until his death. His activity, however, was not restricted to the newspaper; he took a lively interest in the promotion of sound German education in the city, and toiled with excellent results in its interest. Much is claimed for him in connection with the Philadelphia *Realschule*, of which not a few of our readers know something. Others may need to be informed that a *Realschule*, generally defined, is a school for instruction in the arts and sciences, in which the classics and philology are not taught at all, or only in subordination to the more practical subjects. THEODORE KELL was born at Altdorf, in Saxony, in 1817, and was the son of a clergyman. He received his school education in Dresden and completed his law studies in Leipsig. Returning to Dresden he was appointed to a situation in connection with the City Court. Enthusiastic for progress he joined the Saxon patriotic Union and took an active part in all its proceedings. In 1848 he joined the revolutionary movement and was chosen a member of the Provisional Government of SAXONY. When Dresden was taken on the 9th of May, 1849, he was compelled to flee. Still not disgusted with revolution, he was active in the popular revolt in Baden and the Palitinate, and finally made his escape into Switzerland. After a short sojourn there, he went first to Paris and then to London; in both which places he devoted himself to the study of chemistry. In 1852, he came to New York, where he remained, connected with different German papers, until at length he found a permanent residence in Philadelphia.

WM. BAKEWELL, ESQ.

Our dispatches Tuesday announced that our fellow citizen, WILLIAM BAKEWELL, Esq., has been tendered the position of Commissioner of Patents, made vacant by the resignation of Colonel FISHER. Should Mr. BAKEWELL accept, as it is stated he will, the Government will find in him a most efficient, capable and faithful officer. There is perhaps no gentleman in the country—certainly none in the State—better qualified for the discharge of the duties of the office. Mr. BAKEWELL is a son of the late Rev. W. J. BAKEWELL, a name honored in this community. Receiving a careful and thorough education from his father, he pursued for a time the profession of civil engineer, and finally entered as a law student with the late Mr. BRADFORD. He was admitted to the bar some twenty-five years ago, and subsequently formed a law partnership with Judge PATTON, under the name of PATTON & BAKEWELL. For many years past Mr. BAKEWELL has made our patent laws a special study, and having become thoroughly versed in those laws, and the principles and decisions which govern the Courts in their application, his practice in this department has grown so rapidly that he has but little time to attend to any other legal business. He has been engaged in the trial of nearly all the important patent cases arising in the United States Court here, and his practice is by no means confined to this section of the country. Although his ability in this branch of his profession is marked, and widely known and appreciated, his knowledge of the general principles of law and equity is none the less comprehensive and thorough. He has always been a close student, and is impelled in his investigations by a conscientious obligation to find a sure foundation upon which to rest the claims of his clients. In social life, Mr. BAKEWELL is a most respected and estimable Christian gentleman, and one who has enjoyed the confidence and favorable regards of all classes of citizens. For some time past he has held the position of Trustee of the Western University, an institution in whose welfare he has taken a deep interest, and which about a year ago honored him with a Professorship in the Legal Department. He is about forty-six years of age, but being possessed of a vigorous physical organization, he looks much younger, and seems able to stand a good share of hard work, which he will doubtless undergo if he accepts the position. Mr. BAKEWELL is now absent from the city on professional duties.

THE elections resulted much better than we expected, and our rejoicing is accordingly greater. New York city, in the good experience of a comparatively honest election, has cut down its Democratic majority to a lower notch than has been known for years. Massachusetts re-elects Governor CLAFLIN by a better majority over three parties than he had last year over two. New Jersey gives a Republican majority against 3,000 majority for SEYMOUR, and returns three Republican Congressmen instead of two as now. In Kentucky the great Democratic majority is more largely reduced than the Republican majority in Illinois. Maryland has cut down the Democratic majority, and Delaware has done the same, and, indeed, the Republican ticket lacks little, if any, of success. The loss to us of Congressmen in Michigan and Wisconsin is balanced by the defeat of DONNELLY in Minnesota and of CLEVELAND in New Jersey. The BROWN ticket in Missouri was not near as strong as it boasted it would be, but the State is not lost to Republicanism in the campaign. In short, so far as the returns have been made, they show that the people still believe in the great principles of Republicanism, and that the defections are not aimed at the party, but at the politicians who would run it to suit their own improper ends.

LOUISIANA did nobly on Monday. The present reports give the Republicans 20,000 majority on the State ticket, with four Republican Congressmen of five, and a Republican Legislature to elect a successor to Senator J. S. HARRIS, whose term expires March 4, 1871. This is a glorious contrast with 1868, when SEYMOUR had 46,962 majority, and but one Republican was elected to Congress. But then thousands of Radical voters were kept from the polls by threats of death if they voted. Then Claiborne and Sabine parishes had but two votes each for GRANT, though in the former 1,682 colored voters, and in the latter 321 were registered; six other parishes with 8,601 colored votes registered, had but one vote each for GRANT; and not a Republican vote in seven parishes where 7,442 colored voters were registered. The reign of terror has been effectually ended, and Louisiana can now be counted as faithful to the Union cause.

THE Engineers employed by the Water Commission, to make a thorough examination of all the plans proposed for supplying the city with water, have been several months at work, and will soon draw their labors to a close. They have made a most thorough and comprehensive examination of all the proposed sites for water works and reservoirs, have fully taken and mapped all the altitudes in the consolidated city, have considered the question of adequate supply from streams near and remote, and will soon be prepared to lay before Councils the result of their labors, with such recommendations as their skill and experience shall suggest. They have prepared a complete topographical map of the city, which was essential in order to determine where the reservoirs should be placed. Without this no comprehensive plan for supplying the entire population could be devised or executed. The labor has been much greater than was anticipated, but invaluable information has been gained. The plans have been mainly prepared by Mr. MOSES LANE, assistant to Mr. CHESSBROUGH, the Chief Engineer.

VICE PRESIDENT COLFAX says the Republican party was defeated in Indiana because so much "scratching" was done, even by men who never before voted anything but the straight ticket. The Vice President neglects to mention that if there had been "straight" men upon the "straight" tickets, the people would gladly have voted for them. That voters prefer honest and capable men, wherever found, to incompetents whose claim for support is "straight" nominations, in caucuses and conventions run by rings and cliques, is one of the healthiest signs of the times, and promises better for true Republicanism than the election of a few candidates, more or less.

THE Pittsburgh *Post* made a grand display Wednesday over States that have been and were expected to be Democratic, and was especially jolly over the defeat of "Long" JOHN WENTWORTH for Congress. As Mr. WENTWORTH was the Democratic candidate, the joy is unseemly and suggests suspicions of the fealty of the "only" to Democracy.

We have reason to believe that the route chosen for the westward extension of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad is correctly indicated in the report, published elsewhere, of the action of the Chicago Board of Trade. Still, whatever route the Baltimore and Ohio may select for this, its new trunk line to the Northwest, the road will be of inestimable advantage to Pittsburgh, and we trust that no time will be lost in building it to Chicago.

NOW SENATOR SPRAGUE disposes of Mr. JENCKES' charges that he was engaged in cotton speculations in Texas with the rebels, by denying them. He shields himself by a letter from DIX wrote last week intimating that SPRAGUE'S high character and conspicuous patriotism "should protect him from unjust suspicion." If Mr. JENCKES has further proof, as he claims, let him publish it, so that the public may know whether the suspicions against Mr. SPRAGUE are "unjust" or well founded.

FROM PITTSBURGH TO CHICAGO.

Western Extension of the Connellsville Railroad—Chicago Board of Trade Indorses the Akron Route—Its Probable Selection.

The Chicago *Tribune* gives the report of a meeting of the Directors of the Chicago Board of Trade, wherein the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The Board are informed that the project of opening a new line of railroad from this city to Pittsburgh, to connect at that point with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has assumed features that mark it as a success; and,

WHEREAS, This Board are evidently of opinion that such line should be as near an air line as possible; and

WHEREAS, From a recent map of the proposed route, published by authority of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, it appears that an almost air line from the head of Lake Michigan to Akron, O., is in contemplation by that company, the said line passing through territory about midway between lines now in operation, and passing near or through Ashton, Auburn, Ind., and Defiance, O., securing easy grades and a good local traffic, therefore,

Resolved, That this Board most emphatically indorses such proposed route, as being the most desirable of any projected, and, as the securing of an air line is to this city of the first importance, we earnestly recommend the adoption of the line as marked out on the map referred to,

Resolved, That, while this Board most heartily sympathizes with the original conception of the enterprise to shorten the distance over existing routes, they believe that such distance should be made the shortest possible and practicable.

Resolved, That the President of this Board be instructed to communicate a copy of these resolutions to Hon. John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The *Tribune* says that it is asserted that the Baltimore and Ohio Company have expressed decided preference for the proposed Air Line, which will pursue a route between the Muskingum River and Lake Erie, via Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroads. The object of many of the interested local parties was to have the proposed line run as far to the south as the several towns adjacent thereto, and thus create a local rather than a through traffic. It is true that the most profitable existing lines of railroad derive 75 per cent. of their earnings from local traffic, hence the peculiarities about the projected extension of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad which pursue the shortest possible cut the chief desideratum; and, in recognition of this fact, the resolutions were offered.

So far as can now be learned no publicity official action has been taken by the Youngstown and Akron route is the favored one has been made either by the Baltimore and Ohio, or the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Company. But there is certainly no indications in favor of the belief that such select ion has been made. From the map published by direction of the Baltimore and Ohio Company, which we have down this as the route we obtain the following table of comparative distances to Chicago, as scabcard by the proposed line:

	Miles.
From Chicago to Baltimore via B. and O.	779
To New York via N. Y. C. R. R.	960
To New York via the Erie Railway	990
To New York via Penna. R. R.	839
Less to Baltimore than the average distance to New York	155
From Pittsburgh to Baltimore via the B. and O. R. R.	327
New York via the Penna. R. R.	431
Difference in favor of Baltimore	104

THE DOUBLE CHILD.

A Professional Description.

The Delaware, (Ohio) *Gazette* gives this full description of the "double child":

"Ten days ago the wife of Samuel Finley, a farmer residing in Berlin township, about five miles southeast of Ashley, gave birth to one of the most singular malformations of the human species ever heard of in any age or country. The monster was not alive at the time of her offspring until after the physician who had been summoned arrived, when it was exhibited to her, and, as we are told, caused her to swoon. And no wonder, for human flesh probably never looked upon such an anomalous development of the human form.

"One of our prominent physicians, who has seen and examined this strange freak of nature, has given us the following clear and accurate description:

"'This wonderful thing can be truly called a double child. The two are joined at the navel, exactly of which there is a perfectly formed head and face. Each has well-formed shoulders, arms and hands, and a good chest, containing lungs and heart, as any other human being. Each has one navel, which is in the line. There is but one navel, which is in the vein of the abdomen, equidistant from the two heads. It is at the middle of the body that the two are grown together. The abdomen appears to be double, and the viscera contained in it, below the stomach and small intestines, are probably common to the two, as there is but one external outlet.

"'Upon either side, at right angles to the body, there is a well-formed pair of hips, legs and feet. Upon the opposite side there is one large leg (probably the combination of two legs) upon the extremity of which there are eight toes. The organs of generation are apparent to look upon. This one is not so in any respect, excepting this leg.

"'The health of those children, are now ten days old, and are doing as well as children usually do at that period of existence. The nurses at both heads. One will be asleep while the other is crying, and sometimes both sleep or cry at the same time. The natural outlets from the body are in their natural position, between the legs, and are the same common to the two, there being a outlet upon the opposite side. In sex it is a female. The length from the top of one head to the top of the other is twenty inches, and the weight at birth was ten pounds.

"There are no terms in our language applicable to describe such a being as this, and terms for which the dictionary-makers have made no provision whatever. Webster, Worcester, Johnsons all gramatical rules as to gender, number and person. Let any one undertake to say what sex this belongs to in speaking and grammatical construction of terms, and he will at once recognize the poverty of language.

PERSONAL.

Just before his death Balle wrote to Parepa-Rosa that he had composed an English opera, "The Knight of the Leopard," founded upon Scott's "Talisman."

Naphtali Phillips, who died last week, aged ninety-eight, was the oldest living native of New York city, was the first Jewish child born in America, and was the oldest member of the Temple Emanu-El, having been one of eight years ago. He was also editor of the *National Advocate*, and was the personal friend of President Madison, and after that held public office many years.

One of the vacant places in the Spanish Order of the Golden Fleece is to be given to the Sultan. This order, which is common to Spain and Austria, was founded by Philip III, Duke of Burgundy, in the year 1425.

Nilsson's receipts for her first night's singing in Music Hall, Boston, were over $8,000. The largest sum she has received in a night.

A genuine American humorist, one of the few men who combine with wit philosophy, and under whose rugged sarcasm and rough humor there is a fund of deep thought, has, but who has written only one lecture, was recently asked by a successful manager to write a second essay at once. He declined, and so pleasing that a new one from his pen was coming. On their receiving this he replied that he could not comply with the request, for the reason that he had written but one lecture was enough work for one man's lifetime, and that the experience of some of his friends with it warned him off.

Hon. ASA PACKER'S income from the Lehigh Valley Railroad is said to be $500 per day.

In the class graduated at Dartmouth Medical School last Thursday was John A. Parm, of Liberia, a full blooded African.

It is reported and denied that Tennyson will shortly appear again before the public in a series of twelve brief poems connected by a love story, and illustrated each by the designs and by music. Mr. Arthur Hughes will give the artistic illustrations of the new work, and Mr. Arthur Sullivan will set the music these latter utterances of the poet laureate.

Gen. D. C. Buell, having secured a forty years lease of the Alexandria coal mine near Bowling Green, Ky., is about to settle there.

Hon. Aaron F. Perry, the new Congressman from the First Ohio District, has the most lucrative practice of any member of the Ohio Bar.

The Last Levant.

The Navy Department gave enough credit to the story that a survivor of the Levant had reached Norfolk, Va., for Secretary Robeson to send a telegram to the Admiral of the Navy Yard there to make an investigation. The Department will soon publish an authentic statement of what has been learned, if the main story is true. The Levant was a naval vessel, that it has been quite positively known was lost off the west coast of South Africa in 1861, in one of the terrible gales common in that portion of the Pacific, but no definite information was ever received, and it was supposed that all the crew were drowned, unless the vessel foundered or was wrecked upon some of the small islands. After vainly waiting for a year or more for news from the Levant the vessel was reported upon the records of the department as lost, and the widows and children of the officers and crew of the vessel were declared entitled to pensions. The widows of one or more of the officers of the Levant reside in this city and have made frequent applications for information, even since the late war, to organize expeditions to extend the search for the survivors to islands reached by naval vessels ordered to that duty shortly after the loss of the Levant was ascertained. The belief of these widows that some of the survivors would eventually reach the United States, or that some trace of them would be discovered, seems not to have been wholly without value, if the story received at the Navy Department is true. It is said that the survivor who has so unexpectedly turned up was picked up on a small island, on the track of the track of vessels, where he remained until taken off by a passing vessel a short time since.

Financial distress in Martinique is an instance of the distance to which the direct effects of the European war are reaching. Late advices state that great apprehensions exist that the National Bank will be forced to suspend payment, on account of the large drafts lately drawn on Paris being returned unpaid, by which the bank is compelled to pay them in gold, and it is believed that within a month the doors will have to be closed, or payments made in paper. It is proposed that exchequer bills to the amount of 1,500,000 francs shall be emitted, of one, two and three francs each, to be used in maintaining and assisting the solvency of the bank.

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GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Among the recommendations of the Director of the Philadelphia Mint in his annual report, is one for an issue of silver coins of the half and quarter dollar denominations, which shall be redeemable when presented in the amount of ten dollars, but which shall only be worth about seventy-six

vigorous measures for the preservation of public order and additional arrests have been made. The best regiment of National guards, organized for active service made a military promenade on the fifth outside the fortifications. It went as far as Aubervilliers and returned without meeting the enemy.

Prefet Valentin, Rusry and Norguet, by the rapidity and precision of their fire, prevent the enemy from establishing any siege works within musket shot of their guns. Earthworks are thrown up by the besiegers in the night, but are destroyed by the French gunners during the day. The government is not yet ready to contemplate taking a pebble-stum for the rash attempt of their people.

Rochefort, it is understood, resigned in disgust at the insults he received from the people, in whose cause he made many sacrifices.

An Account of Thiers's Mission to Paris and Versailles.

TOURS, November 9.—The following account of Thiers's mission to Paris and Versailles is given on the best authority. Others will be notified that permission had been given for his passage through the Prussian lines to Paris by a dispatch from Gen. Von der Dann, at Orleans. His immediate object was to confer with Favre, who he traveled to Paris in a carriage driven by heavy Prussian artillery horses. His progress was necessarily slow, and he was moreover greatly delayed by the conditions of the roads, which had been cut and otherwise obstructed in many places. The country was desolated, and houses deserted.

On reaching Versailles he was obliged to wait three hours for a pass, and as soon as it was obtained, he drove to Paris without seeing Bismarck or any other Prussian diplomat, though he was constantly attended by army officers. He travelled with the Prussian government at Paris, he returned to Versailles, where he was received by Bismarck and had one long interview with him daily during his stay. On the question of revictualing Paris Bismarck represented that the King was inflexible. As to the elections in Alsace and Lorraine, the King did not want electoral agitation. He also insisted that Assembly itself could appoint as delegates citizens deemed to be worthy representatives of provinces, to which proceeding the King might be induced to consent. During the conversation on this point, the Prussian Minister sarcastically observed that if elections were allowed in the occupied Departments, they would be null and void. Bismarck held there. On the morning of the 6th Thiers received the final consent of Prussia. He then met by appointment Jules Favre and General Ducrot, at the Bridge of Sevres, and formed them of the Prussian terms, and they went back to Paris, Thiers awaiting their return at Sevres. On reporting as they had consulted their colleagues, they returned and stated that they had resolved to refuse the armistice because it did not concede the revictualing of Paris. The resolution was communicated to Count Bismarck and the negotiations were broken off. It is reported to be the opinion of Thiers that the Prussians have renounced their intention of bombarding Paris, fearing the universal condemnation of the civilized nations, but they will make attacks in force and will probably shell the forts.

Thiers takes highly the conduct of Monseigneur Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, who remains in the city and is unremitting in his efforts to mitigate the severity of the enemy.

Prussian Reinforcements Arriving.

VERSAILLES, November 9, noon.—Seventeen aunts, captured from balloons, have been sent to fortresses in Germany. It is said the papers found on them seriously compromise the members of the corps diplomatique and others, in honor had fallen into their hands.

The fourth Prussian division has arrived in the vicinity of Versailles, and the third is at Chateau Thierry. Prince Frederick Charles has arrived at Commercy.

PRUSSIA.

The Day of Meeting of the North German Parliament.

BERLIN, November 9.—The *Provincial Correspondence* names the 20th of the present month as probably the day for the meeting of the North German Parliament. The principal business will be to take means to continue the war, and provide for the admission of the Southern States into the Confederation. The purpose of Bavaria alone is uncertain.

French Frigates Sighted Off the Elbe.

HAMBURG, November 9.—A fleet of French frigates were sighted off the Elbe.

BELGIUM.

German Ships at Antwerp.

ANTWERP, November 9.—On account of the large number of German ships refuged here, and the increased trade directed to this port in consequence of the war, the harbor is overburdened with shipping, and many vessels are unable to unload their cargoes from lack of warehouse room.

Thiers's Reception in Paris—The German Commanders Demand Peace as Impossible Until Paris is Taken—Strength of the Army of the Loire—Interview With Thiers—Letter from General Manteuffel.

NEW YORK, November 9.—The *Tribune's* special at Versailles, writing on the 5th instant, says in military circles Thiers's mission was never thought to be serious. His efforts to enter Paris without seeing Bismarck having failed, he was obliged to carry with him the preliminaries, which practically forbid an armistice. In Paris he was badly received. Street crowds snowed him great ill-will, as bearer of the news that Paris had capitulated. A guard was required for his protection, and finally he left the city under escort of cavalry. Favre, who was to have accompanied him, harassed himself at the last moment, on account of the threatening aspect of affairs. Thiers had six interviews with Bismarck. Except in diplomatic circles, no body paid him the least attention.

All the German commanders regard peace as impossible until Paris is taken, but even now bombardment is not certain. The siege guns are actually in position at many points, but it is believed fire will not be opened before the 15th.

Intercepted letters from Paris are filled with complaints for want of food. The supplies at St. Germain and Versailles are more abundant than ever. Great quantities of provisions and especially forage are distributed almost daily, concealed by the French.

A *Times* special from the headquarters of the army of the Loire on the 6th says: Prussia army has increased rapidly, and numbers 100,000. Artillery is abundant, but harness and saddlery are deficient. They are well equipped and are in excellent health. Prussians make out why they have been permitted to concentrate so large a force unmolested. The French themselves are blaming Trochu's inaction, intended to attack, but did not because the movement took twenty-four days instead of twenty-four hours. Their failure was due to the interference of the Tours Government, which insisted on directing every detail, and had its own plan of battle. Everything broke down from sheer ignorance and incompetency. Yet the Germans are not to be alarmed for delay.

A correspondent of the *World*, writing from Nancy on the 7th instant, says that no armistice was agreed upon because the Government insisted on reprovisioning the city. The Prussian military authorities refused to accede to this, although Bismarck was willing to concede it.

Prussia stated her demands with considerable distinctness and composure, excepting in regard to the money account. Her conditions were the cession of Haut and Bas Rhine, two departments containing the fortresses of Strasburg, Belfort, and several lesser strongholds. As for money, "*Prusse n'a pas gu'un sou*" *worth*," and will not fail to reckon every groschen the Prussians have spent in the war, and demand its payment.

I had a lengthy conversation with M. Thiers and he informed me of different propositions they he had performed through Europe. He first went to Tours then to Paris, arriving at Versailles on the 31st ult., with all the necessary powers to treat. He conferred with Bismarck every day and sometimes twice a day, discussing the condition of a truce, the first step toward the formation of a regular government. Hostilities temporarily cease the election might be held and the Constituent Assembly convoked which would decide upon a form of government. Prussia would then determine the question of peace or war. Thiers informed me that Russia and Austria-England had taken the lead in the endeavor to obtain terms of peace, while Russia stood aloof, with reserve. Thiers found Mr. Gladstone engrossed in home affairs, he was quite different as to the concerns of the rest of the world, and was afraid to meddle with them. Granville is too much of a courtier to wound German susceptibilities. Lord Lyons alone seemed awake to the danger arising from the blood from the formation of an all powerful monarchy in the center of Europe, but they did not conceal their jealousy of Russia. Thiers was not in action when Thiers informed them that he was going to St. Petersburg. "Why leave us so soon?" they asked, "why should you go to Russia?" "To try and find friends that I could not find here," answered Thiers. The truth at St. Petersburg Thiers did find friends. Who knows what Russia would have done had she been ready. As she was not armed she could only give the weight of her influence and action to her diplomacy. This was enough to raise England and make her take the lead, and thus the four powers agreed to address the Prussian Government collectively. Austria was glad to do that little for a power whose meanness would have delighted her, but whose defeat alarmed her. Italy, the least friendly of all the powers, hardly concealed her regret at the fall of the Empire-parte dynasty.

The editor of The *Evening Mail* of this city publishes an abstract of a private letter from a distinguished American officer, General William Hawley, who has been at the King of Prussia's headquarters since the investment of Paris. General Hawley visited the battle-field of Sedan, which, he says, "was not a very deadly encounter, many of our battles surpassing it in casualties. Rifles in this country," he continues, "have little similarity to guns. The troops do not take up fixed positions and fight behind covers, but seem to be moving all the time. The field showed no long trenches of dead, but scattering graves over the whole field, which is five or six miles in extent. These are usually contained but a single soldier, although sometimes two or three are buried together."

General Hazen says further: "The country from Sedan to near Paris shows very few signs of war—scarcely the sight of a ruined house, whose country was rich with the crops ready for harvest, in which the people were engaged as in ordinary times. The siege guns are actually in position at many points, but it is believed fire will not be opened before the 15th.

Intercepted letters from Paris are filled with complaints for want of food. The supplies at St. Germain and Versailles are more abundant than ever. Great quantities of provisions and especially forage are distributed almost daily, concealed by the French.

A *Times* special from the headquarters of the army of the Loire on the 6th says: Prussia army has increased rapidly, and numbers 100,000. Artillery is abundant, but harness and saddlery are deficient. They are well equipped and are in excellent health. Prussians make out why they have been permitted to concentrate so large a force unmolested. The French themselves are blaming Trochu's inaction, intended to attack, but did not because the movement took twenty-four days instead of twenty-four hours. Their failure was due to the interference of the Tours Government, which insisted on directing every detail, and had its own plan of battle. Everything broke down from sheer ignorance and incompetency. Yet the Germans are not to be alarmed for delay.

A correspondent of the *World*, writing from Nancy on the 7th instant, says that no armistice was agreed upon because the Government insisted on reprovisioning the city. The Prussian military authorities refused to accede to this, although Bismarck was willing to concede it.

Prussia stated her demands with considerable distinctness and composure, excepting in regard to the money account. Her conditions were the cession of Haut and Bas Rhine, two departments containing the fortresses of Strasburg, Belfort, and several lesser strongholds. As for money, "*Prusse n'a pas gu'un sou*" *worth*," and will not fail to reckon every groschen the Prussians have spent in the war, and demand its payment.

I had a lengthy conversation with M. Thiers and he informed me of different propositions they he had performed through Europe. He first went to Tours then to Paris, arriving at Versailles on the 31st ult., with all the necessary powers to treat. He conferred with Bismarck every day and sometimes twice a day, discussing the condition of a truce, the first step toward the formation of a regular government. Hostilities temporarily cease the election might be held and the Constituent Assembly convoked which would decide upon a form of government. That would then determine the question of peace or war. Thiers informed me that Russia and England-England has taken the lead in the endeavor to obtain terms of peace, while Russia stood aloof, with reserve. Thiers found Mr. Gladstone engrossed in home affairs, he was quite different as to the concerns of the rest of the world, and was afraid to meddle with them. Granville is too much of a courtier to wound German susceptibilities. Lord Lyons alone seemed awake to the danger arising from the blood from the formation of an all powerful monarchy in the center of Europe, but they did not conceal their jealousy of Russia. Thiers was not in action when Thiers informed them that he was going to St. Petersburg. "Why leave us so soon?" they asked, "why should you go to Russia?" "To try and find friends that I could not find here," answered Thiers. The truth at St. Petersburg Thiers did find friends. Who knows what Russia would have done had she been ready. As she was not armed she could only give the weight of her influence and action to her diplomacy. This was enough to raise England and make her take the lead, and thus the four powers agreed to address the Prussian

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BISMARCK AND GERMAN INFLUENCE IN AMERICA.

A few days ago we were told that Earl GRANVILLE, in a diplomatic note addressed to BISMARCK, asserted that the English Government had been quite as observant of the obligations of neutrality towards Germany as the Government of the United States had been, and "wondered," as mere common people say, why the sale of warlike munitions to the French by British traders was made the subject of such stern remonstrance, while the Yankee transgressors in the same way were left comparatively undisturbed in their pleasing operations. The gist of the note was: Why so manifest a difference of tone in the letters addressed to the two Governments, who were both alleged to have offended in essentially the same manner and so nearly to the same extent as to have merited the same if any rebuke? The Count is reported to have explained that he supposed the American Government might be safely left for restraint, to the large German population of the country, who would naturally exert their influence in favor of the Fatherland and to prevent whatever tended to increase its calamities. The statement came to us as a mere telegraphic report of a subject of London talk. It seems, however, not at all unlikely that BISMARCK may have given some such reason for a difference of treatment which clearly called for explanation. We have no disposition to speak slightingly of German influence in this country, nor do we doubt that, in this instance, it was exerted in accordance with the expectation of the Prussian government. In New York, Washington, indeed everywhere, prominent Germans were becomingly on the alert to investigate the suspected violation of the neutrality laws, while German editors wrote and German orators lifted up their voices in denunciation of the offense, whether actual or only intended. At the same time, we doubt whether their zealous interposition has exerted any appreciable effect upon the United States Government. While the law of nations allows the citizens of a neutral country, at their own risk, to sell arms and other warlike stores to either or both the belligerents, the Government may take no part in such commerce without violating its neutral obligations. Though some writers think that the Government ought to employ its revenue and police services in preventing such trade on the part of private citizens, this is nothing more than the opinion of a few refined moralists, it is not yet any part of the recognized code by which the intercourse of nations is regulated. Naturally enough, the opinion is apt to become prevalent among the members of a nation at war, when they learn that their enemies are receiving arms from neutral neighbors. It is this opinion of a few which the Germans insist shall be accepted by the English as an established law. BISMARCK is understood to have pressed it upon the American Government also as of binding obligation. If he did so, we may with reason be confident that Mr. FISH refused the suggestion as not to be entertained for a moment, as inconsistent with the entire tenor and purport of American discussion and policy in the past regarding the rights of neutrals. With respect to any alleged actual participation of the Government itself in the sale of arms to the French, it is certain that our rulers never for a moment thought of compromising themselves in that way, and therefore it cannot justly be claimed that the interposition of our German fellow-citizens accomplished anything. In fact, it was quite uncalled for.

The truth is that the reference made by Count BISMARCK or Count BERNSTORFF, in the controversy with Lord GRANVILLE, to the anticipated exertions of German influence in the United States, was a very happy stroke of logical dexterity. A reason was required, and in the assumption a reason was found. No doubt, the supplies of coal and arms received by the French from England have been a terrible grievance to the Germans; it is not strange that they bitterly complain of it. But the offensive arrogance of the Prussian letter on the subject is not wholly to be ascribed to that cause. BISMARCK well knows that Prussian politics are regarded with profound distrust by English statesmen. It is also well known that he looks upon the popular features of the English Government with intense hatred. It is a monarchy which puts to shame the sort of monarchical rule which he wishes to maintain forever in Prussia. Then, for many years England has been detested in Prussia, indeed throughout Germany. Abuse of English policy and English manners has long been a favorite topic with the leading newspapers. "The proud are even most provoked by pride," and the offense caused in America by English arrogance is slight in comparison with the disgust it has excited among the better classes of the Germans. Both on his own account and in the gratification of a popular German feeling there is, no doubt BISMARCK has found much satisfaction in snubbing the English Government. In one of the latest London dispatches we read of "the increasing bitterness there at the slights of BISMARCK, as shown in his firm language to the English as contrasted with his courtesy to Americans and Russians." There is no injustice to the Prussian Count in assuming that he throws his personal feelings into his diplomatic papers. While no doubt, when necessary, he knows how to subordinate them to policy, he is always BISMARCK, and does not hesitate to gratify his prejudices and resentment in the performance of his official duties. In the very beginning of our civil war, he was one of the first statesmen in Europe to understand the situation and to foresee the ultimate triumph of the greater multitude and the longer purse. It is a striking proof of his versatility that, while gaining American good will, he has also contrived to lull the jealousies and fears of the CZAR. With England to control and humble while regulating the continent, BISMARCK will not quarrel with the United States about a few millions of muskets.

GEOGRAPHICAL REFORM.

VICTOR HUGO has astonished some of his countrymen as well as the Germans by a display of his ignorance of geography. From one of his recent diatribes it appears that the aged poet and romancer has always regarded himself as a native of Lotheringen or Lorraine, because he was born in Besancon, and he is indignant at the purpose of the Germans to make *him* one of themselves by annexing his birthplace. In fact, the want of familiarity with French history disclosed in HUGO's wrath is rather more remarkable than the ignorance of French topography displayed. If at all familiar with the annals of the country, he must have remembered that Besancon was the capital of the old province of Franche-Comte, forming the present departments of Doubs, Haute-Saone and Jura. Of the geography and history of foreign countries it is not at all uncommon for French authors of the lighter sort to be profoundly ignorant. From several passages in the stories of the elder DUMAS it is evident that he had never looked at a map of Great Britain, and a year after the close of the American civil war, Mr. JOHN HAY discovered that he had never heard of the abolition of slavery. The event might have been supposed to be of peculiar interest to the veteran story-teller, himself a member of the African race, and never ashamed of his pedigree. That such indifference is not a mere idiosyncrasy of DUMAS *pere* is proved by the fact mentioned by Mr. HAY that, in one of the best romances of DUMAS the younger, the hero, a young Bostonian, is represented as finding agreeable amusement in looking on while his slaves were flogged. The truth seems to be that a French novelist thinks only of Paris and cares only for the entertainment and applause of its people. When he describes foreigners, his object is to gratify the self-complacency and humor the prejudices of his Parisian readers; while all foreign territory is treated as *terra incognita* which he is at liberty to use just as the purpose of his art, or the exigencies of his story, may seem to require. The notion of preserving *probability, or congruity* with facts generally reported and believed, has no place in his system of art or ethics. Why then should he concern himself to learn what can never be of any use to him?

However, in the matter of geography we believe that Englishmen and Americans also are very commonly strict utilitarians, and retain in memory those facts only of which experience proves the use. As taught in the old fashioned way geography is no science, but a mere collection of isolated particulars. In the books from which the subject is taught, the various countries of the world are arranged in the order of their apparent importance to the people for whom the book is prepared. In the English school geography, the little island of Great Britain holding the first place, the other European countries are marshalled next, while Asia, Africa, America, Australia and the islands of the sea occupy insignificant space appropriate to their distances from the center of enlightenment. In the American school geography, the great Republic with its multitudinous States fills the space to which it is entitled by its extent, power and civilization, while the other political divisions of the earth are arranged in becoming subordination. Of course, it is quite right and proper that children should know more about the geography of their own country than of any other, and that the relative greatness and worth of their own nation should be early impressed upon their minds. This is the spirit of nations full of national pride and self-assertion. But when carried into the manufacture of the school geography, one effect of it may be to impart a one-sided and unsymmetrical view of the subject. The Englishman familiar with the boundaries of each county of his island and with the names of its most insignificant towns, is amazed at the ignorance of the American who has forgotten on which side of England Hull is sithated, while the American thoroughly drilled in the details of his own extensive geography, is disgusted with the foreigner who doesn't know the number of States, and places Pittsburgh in Indiana. The truth is that these details have no interest in themselves for any persons until it is awakened by circumstances; though learned at school, they are speedily forgotten and are relearned only when the requirements of business or the intercourse of society makes the knowledge valuable or creditable. However, it became evident, some time ago, that geography is destined to receive very different and more respectful treatment in the future. Indeed, a great reform has already taken place, and it has become one of the most interesting as it is one of the most important of the sciences. By facility of intercommunication distant nations are brought close together and prompted to study one another's dwelling-places, and the entire earth is understood as never before. As physical geography is now taught in the best common schools of America and Europe, the pupil is trained to understand the different divisions of the globe in their relation to each other, and to the whole, and the relations between each country and its inhabitants. In the presence of the incessant and ever increasing intercourse among the nations and with the general diffusion of such a knowledge of the earth as is derived from the works of RITTER and GUYOT, the ancient indifference and the ancient ignorance must before long cease to be found anywhere.

WAR CONTINUED.

It is frightful to think of the responsibility assumed by the French Provisional Government in rejecting the terms of armistice which had been arranged, and in resolving to let the hopeless struggle go on. A struggle it can hardly any longer with propriety be called, as there is believed to be little enthusiasm or unanimity in any considerable portion of the population, and their opposition in any given place can have but one result.

Foreigners are almost unable to perceive upon what grounds the Government hope for any valuable results from the prolongation of the war, while the dangers which threaten the country from within are more terrible than the evils inflicted upon it by the invaders. Apparently the men upon whose wisdom the people depend for direction are expecting that their inability to take Paris will render the Germans willing to give up their claim of new boundaries. Or, another hope may have still more influence in inducing them to continue the state of hostilities. Knowing that comparatively few people outside of Germany look with much favor or approval upon the proposed annexation of Alsace and Lorraine, the only barrier in the way of peace, it is perhaps looked for that the Germans will before long begin to shrink at once from the disapprobation of the world and from their exaction of territory. French hopes in this direction may have been encouraged by the freedom with which the German soldiers are accustomed to avow themselves tired of the war.

In reference to the state of feeling in Paris there is an interesting statement in a letter lately published. It was written in the beleaguered city, and its author is apparently a French officer of considerable rank. With respect to public opinion around him he divides the people into three classes. First, the owners of property, of whom it is alleged every one would eagerly favor the surrender of the place without making terms. This is their real private sentiment, but so soon as two or three of them come together, each proclaims his readiness to shed his last drop of blood for his country. They are afraid of each other. The second class consists of those who have nothing to lose, and who hail every revolution as a possible change for the better, but who prefer the mild sway of the French police to the severe control which they fear under Prussian occupation. The true patriots form the third class, with whom the defense of Paris is a matter of sacred duty, downright fanatical earnest, and who sincerely desire to see France once more restored to honor and prosperity. The writer then asks what is to be the end of the sad history?—a question in answer to which he says, that, sooner or later, by surrender or by assault, Paris must fall into the hands of the enemy. Then the men of property will receive the Prussians as so many policemen, restorers of quiet and order, deliverers from the bondage of the rabble. For the sake of appearances they will look gloomy, and some of the women may put on black attire in sign of mourning, but in their secret chambers they will count their money rescued from the great shipwreck, thanking God that what they have is at least secure; while the rabble will creep back to their obscure holes and hiding places, savage and envious, to wait for days to come when they may again see the light of the sun. "For myself," concludes the writer, "I intend to make common cause, hopeless though it be, with the patriots, and either die in the breach, or after the catastrophe retire to Algiers, Cochin-China, or some other one of the French colonies. *Finis Poloniae!*"

THE WAR AND AMERICAN PROSPERITY.

When the last great European war prevailed, there were no Atlantic steamers and no Atlantic cables. These wonderful inventions, by the social and economical revolutions which they have brought about, have so disturbed the data and conclusions of the past, that some time, it appears, must still elapse before the changes effected in the relations of the various nations of the world to one another, can be exactly measured. No doubt, it was partly in view of the intimate connection thus established between Europe and America, that people anticipated such violent perturbations of different kinds in the latter country as the results of great agitations in the former. When France declared war on Germany, not a few Americans were as much excited by the prospect of financial and commercial disturbances and shifting of equilibrium in this country, as if it were about to become the scene of hostilities, or were a next-door neighbor of the belligerents. A German contemporary gives some illustrations of the mistaken notions with which the course of the war was looked forward to. The sudden fall of the American bonds at the commencement of the war was a mere vibration, the consequence of a momentary feeling of insecurity. The actual effect of the war has been to make them seem a more valuable possession, and American paper stands higher to-day in Frankfort than ever, while gold is lower than it was before the declaration of war. The hopes entertained of rise in the price of wheat have turned out thus far fallacious. As every one knows, besides the unavoidable waste incidental to it, war causes a more than ordinary consumption of breadstuffs. In France we also learn fearful want prevails. And yet the price of grain in this country is not raised. The explanation is supposed to be that the French consumers are not in a condition to buy, while the demand of Germany beyond its own production has hitherto been supplied from the abundant stores of Russia and Hungary. Should the war continue through the winter, it is not unlikely that the European sources of supply may be exhausted and the American market may be called on to make up the deficiency, the immediate effect of which would of course be to raise the price of the article. In fact, hides and leather are the only American articles of which the market has been perceptibly affected by the war. The fact is certainly a remarkable as it is an unexpected phenomenon, that by so tremendous a convulsion as that of the conflict between France and Germany the trade of this country is so slightly touched, favorably or otherwise.

An explanation of the phenomenon, according to our German contemporary, is to be found in the vastness of our internal commerce. The entire trade-machinery of our gigantic complexity of States has become so great as to form a system with its own center of gravity, and is therefore not liable to have its equilibrium disturbed, or to be thrown out of its usual track, as formerly, by foreign influence. Taking all things into account, it is thought certain that the prosperity of this country neither has lost nor will lose anything by the war. The present partial arrest of immigration will be more than compensated by the increase which is destined to take place on the return of peace. It is not thought this will be much affected by the destruction of life which the war has caused; so great is the superfluity of labor in Germany, and so much are the Germans predisposed to change their place, that emigration beyond the sea must continue yet for a long time.

As WE remarked a few days ago, it did not appear certain at once, on the occupation of Rome by the King of Italy, whether or not the temporal power of the Holy See had been abrogated, or whether it was the purpose of the Italian Government to continue it. In the future, much might depend upon the recognition of the *principle* by Italian statesmen, if the Kingdom of Italy is destined to endure, and the principle of the temporal or political rule might be as firmly maintained in the public law of Europe by the sovereignty of two acres as of ten thousand square miles. All doubts on the subject are at last set aside, if the cable dispatch from Rome, contained in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday, is rightly understood. In it we read that "all political authority of the Pope and Holy See in Italy is abolished and will remain so." In connection with this subject it is interesting to learn that the Catholic subjects of King WILLIAM have exerted themselves to procure the patronage of their King for the Pope in his distress. Some time ago a large number of the Catholic citizens of Berlin held a meeting, under the presidency of a high government functionary, and resolved to offer his Majesty a petition on the subject. In it they call upon King WILLIAM, in appropriate terms, to take steps which may secure the Holy Father in the enjoyment of the independence essential to the right exercise of his high office. The wonderful change that has come over the world of Europe is indicated in the fact that a Protestant sovereign is recognized as the only power to whom the head of the Catholic Church, in his helplessness, can look for aid. A ruler of Prussia the King has many Catholic subjects, whose feelings and interests he is bound to consult as much as possible, and as the prospective Emperor of Germany the religious sentiments of many millions more of the same faith, become an element of concern to him. Without reference to the present embarrassment of the Papal See, the Catholics of South Germany, influenced by their spiritual guides, regard with little favor subjection to Protestant rule. In view of these things, it seems likely that the question of the Pope's temporal power is one of some difficulty just now to German politicians. We may, however, be pretty sure that, whatever King WILLIAM might be inclined to do, he would not dare to affront the liberal Protestantism of Garmany, by repeating on any scale, the part of the French Emperor in Italy.

THE New York election is likely to result in the re-election of FOLGER as Governor by a decisive majority. The contest is being conducted with great energy, the members of Congress, the Democrats hoping to make gains. In the city the Republicans are in a muddle that is perfectly impossible to understand, and by which they appear to have thrown away several chances. HOFFMAN will come out of the contest a full-fledged Presidential candidate. From that time forward there will be no disguise, and nothing will be omitted to secure for him the nomination of the next Democratic National Convention. These efforts will stir into activity the friends of other candidates, HENDRICKS, of Indiana, being the most conspicuous and the fairer man. HOFFMAN will have the more powerful organizations to back him, to say nothing of Erie FISK, who ought to prove a damaging accession with the decent portion of the Democratic party. Already are the HOFFMAN plans laid, including the establishing of papers, the possession of committees and means for raising a shout after the fashion of the Young Eagle. But the Young Eagle failed to soar high enough, and HOFFMAN might with profit to himself take warning. HENDRICKS doubtless has the good will of the better portion of the party, but they as a reliance are less certain by far than the active workers who have enlisted, and are expected to enlist, under the HOFFMAN banner. But there is a lion in the way—if he is not too sick—in the person of Mr. CHASE. An accident, or treachery, only prevented his nomination when SEYMOUR was overcome and consented. Outside of the partisans is a large body of Democrats who have no heart for going over the ground again with a candidate possessing no extra strength, and who conceive that something new and more promising should be undertaken. The reasons that brought CHASE so nearly to being the candidate then, in their estimation, are even stronger now. The party has made no headway in the meantime that affords material encouragement with a candidate that can command only the party strength. For the sake of expediency they are for CHASE, and in their view HENDRICKS and PENDLETON are said to coincide. The health of the Chief Justice, therefore, becomes an important consideration. HOFFMAN, however, may be regarded as a candidate against all comers, and from henceforth—backed as he is likely to be by a Democratic triumph in his own State—the contest is likely to be a lively one.

THE excitement at Brady's Bend and the adjacent country, in consequence of the recent extraordinary oil "strike," is altogether natural, and will necessarily prove infectious. Accepting the most moderate representations as true, the "strike" is one of the most remarkable in the history of Petroleum. A well flowing every twenty-four hours a thousand barrels of oil is not only a fortune to the owners but a wonderful fact in any light. That the product is likely to diminish does not in the least lessen the character of the phenomenon—a phenomenon concerning the cause and laws of which, with all the experience that has been had on the subject, is about as little understood as when the first well was "put down." But few care to stop to examine into this, so long as they can have the fruits of their possession. A well that flows three or four thousand dollars worth of oil every twenty-four hours is truly an object of interest independent of the forces that cause it thus to give forth. Those who have given the subject most attention, we believe are far from being satisfied concerning the laws of the phenomenon. Much has been learned, however, in boring and managing wells, and some certain ideas as to "belts" and "territory" have been drawn from the experience of the last half dozen years. Beyond this, we believe, the matter is as much a mystery as ever. It is to be observed that the "producing region" is now within a little more than sixty miles of Pittsburgh, and coming nearer almost every month. There are those who will tell you where, in the immediate nighborhood, if you bore deep enough, oil can be obtained. Whether "oil territory" is changing, or the new discoveries are simply of old facts, and that one has only to keep boring anywhere in what is generally regarded as the "drift" to have his labors crowned with oil—who can tell? But we intended to refer only to the new excitement and the cause of it, at Brady's Bend. Property in the neighborhood has already risen to enormous prices. Fortunes are as rapidly made now as ever—and possibly lost as quickly. This latest "strike" will doubtless make the "Bend" the most distinguished theater of all Oildom for some time to come. Hundreds and thousands will flock thither to see the great well, in the vague expectation perhaps that in some way or other they too may "strike oil." The only thing they can be sure of is that they never will if they don't try!

THE statement now made that Major ANDERSON concurred in the opinion that Fort Sumter could not be provisioned at the time Mr. LINCOLN came to the Presidency without employing a force of 20,000 men, will probably be regarded by the surviving officers of that heroic garrison as something bordering on the ridiculous. At the time of the *Star of the West* affair, all that was required to render the expedition entirely successful was pluck, and not much of it either. From that time forward the rebels doubtless did strengthen themselves considerably in the harbor, and at the time Mr. LINCOLN came in any attempt to relieve Sumter would have been somewhat perilous; but such an attempt would have been practicable. But not so much was known then as afterward, for during the war many more difficult expeditions were attended with perfect success. The rebels themselves felt no real security as the alleged opinion of Major ANDERSON would indicate, and we have good reason for saying that nothing was so much feared by them as that a determined attempt would be made to relieve Sumter, with even a few hundred men. The *faux pous* of the *Star of the West* excited nothing but ridicule in Charleston, for nothing was more easy than for that vessel to make her way to the Fort, and when she turned back the imprisoned garrison were filled with anything but admiration. For months afterwards, down to Mr. LINCOLN's time, it was the constant dread and expectation of the rebels that the Federal Government would commit the enterprise to competent hands. Had this been done it would probably have succeeded.

THE Bedford *Inquirer*, in a well condensed article, gives expression to public sentiment in that quarter of our State in favor of Civil Service Reform. It properly remarks that "strict partisans will always oppose reform, as will also demagogues and pot-house politicians who are incapable of entertaining a thought or an idea that looks to the good of the whole people and places that above mere party." While this is strictly true, these are gratifying indications that political leaders, the better class, perhaps, are becoming convinced that the "spoils of office" as obtained under the present system of giving out the offices, cost more than they are worth. We believe it is a fact that members of Congress will as a rule admit that the federal patronage which they have dispensed has been a detriment to them. Few will claim that they have dispensed it according to their convictions of what would have been best for the public. Pot-house politicians had to be rewarded, and if members of Congress would only believe that it would be better for themselves as well as the public to turn a deaf ear and a cold shoulder to all such and recommend appointments solely on merit, the reform would be already half accomplished. But there is no hope of this. The power must, therefore, be taken out of their hands, and the system changed so that character and capacity will be the standard. We cordially second the following motion made by the *Inquirer* on this point:

"And now in advance, we demand that our Members and Senators in Congress, representing delegation from Pennsylvania without regard to party assist in, and co-operate with every movement for the reform of the civil service. If we go not forward with reform we must go backward; there is no standing still. Our watchword is forward."

THE Free Traders are active and seem determined to push themselves into power at all hazards. The friends of American industry miss it greatly in not being as harmoniously and efficiently organized. One of the most prominent of the "Free Reformers" is for a number of them, who have heretofore acted with the Republicans, to issue an address in the Detroit Congressional District declaring that "a half-dozen Free Trade Republicans will be in the next Congress from Ohio, and it is confidently expected that not a single Protectionist will be elected from any of the States west of Ohio and south of Michigan," and calling upon the people in behalf of the Free Trade Democratic candidate in preference to the Protectionist Republican. That this is not a mere local movement is evident. For we have it that ex-Commissioner WELLS predicts an interesting fight over the House organization of the Forty-second Congress. The Revenue Reformers, he says, believe that they are strong enough to elect an entire set of officers, including the Speaker, in their interest. Notwithstanding the confident declaration of the Detroit gentlemen, there will not be Republican Free Traders enough to accomplish Mr. WELL's prediction, unless a coalation is made with the Democrats, and even then Protectionists need not despair. As there is good reason to believe that thorough organization will elect a Republican Protectionist in the Detroit District, so thorough organization by the Protectionists will continue the people of the country in their devotion to the American system.

THE decision of Recorder HACKETT of New York, in what is known as the trap-gun case, involves the important principle that a man has the right to defend his property, even in his absence. The circumstances are that after the shop of JOSEPH D. AGOSTINO, a gunsmith, had twice been robbed by burglars, he devised a spring gun, which he placed so that any one trying to enter through the window that the burglars had used, would be shot by it. One morning the window was found to be open, the gun was discharged and the corpse of a young man was lying on the sidewalk below, with the top of his head blown off. It was evident that he had been killed by the trap-gun, while trying to force a felonious entrance into the shop. The Coroner's Jury censured Mr. AGOSTINO for having caused the death of GEORGE TWEEDLE, and he was put under heavy bonds awaiting the action of the Grand Jury. The Recorder ordered his discharge on the ground that he could find no law making the killing of TWEEDLE under such circumstances an offense. The decision will commend itself to the thinking mind as embodying the just view that a man should be authorized to provide for the defense of his property under all circumstances, and that too, if it is right to shoot a burglar yourself, it is quite as right to devise a machine that will prevent him from plying his nefarious avocation.

IT is the habit of the Revenue Reformers to refer to Pennsylvania manufacturers as demanding Protection at the expense of the country as a whole. These Reformers might better employ themselves in giving a reason why they oppose free tea, coffee, sugar, spices and other articles of prime necessity consumed by everybody and entering into the cost of whatever we make or grow. From these articles we collect sixty million dollars annually, which is paid by consumers. Why not cease to collect this sum? Pennsylvania manufacturers certainly will not be found opposing it; but thus far the Reformers have failed to declare themselves in favor of it. Are they sincere? The question is a fair one, and we would like to have the Chicago *Tribune*, which takes upon itself the labor of champion in the West for the Reform cause, give a reason for maintaining high duties on the necessaries we have named, none of which we grow, and virtual free trade in iron and other things, all of which we produce in abundance. The Pennsylvania manufacturers are unjustly accused. They do not perceive the wisdom of laying heavy duties on articles of universal consumption which we do not and other countries do produce, and light duties on what we are able to supply at home.

"ROAD agents," the Western euphemism for highway robbers, are certainly becoming altogether too bold, when they venture to attack and plunder trains upon the Pacific Railway. The adventure near Verdi, on Friday night, is worthy of Greek brigands, and calls for untiring pursuit of the robbers, and their prompt and thorough punishment when captured.

As was foreseen would be the case, those Americans who thought it would be a fine thing to permit themselves to be shut up in Paris are getting out as fast and by any means they can. Hundreds of them have arrived in London, glad enough to escape from famine within and great guns without. It is reported that Minister WASHBURNE will leave when the bombardment begins. He has been a good deal praised for the part he has played since the Republic was declared, but there are those who have doubts about the perfect propriety of his course. But concerning his efforts, in which he is said to have been industrious, to relieve Americans from their voluntary imprisonment, there will be no difference of opinion. It was lucky for them that our Minister, whether by a correct or mistaken notion of things, had placed himself in a position where he could so much assist them. We believe it is their united testimony that things are bad enough in Paris, which receives confirmation from the cable reports.

CONSTITUTIONAL reform elicits an earnest indorsement throughout the State, and the prevailing sentiment appears to be that instead of submitting the question to a popular vote, the Legislature should as early as possible provide for holding a convention to revise the constitution. The submission of the question would necessarily consume time, and perhaps postpone for a year the reform to which there is no opposition but what proceeds from certain leaders who would find their occupation gone. The Philadelphia *Post* aptly remarks: "There is no occasion to waste time in the discussion of the necessity for such a reform. Years of scandalous legislation have taught us how essential to good government the movement is, and the people are anxious to second any honest effort to apply the corrective."

AN armistice between Prussia and France is likely to be, if it is not already, a fact. The money centers indicate the expectation of peace as the result. In accepting the offer of an armistice the Provisional Government of France will have shown its good sense and manifested wisdom in almost the only instance since it took the direction of affairs. The movements of certain important personages, taken in connection with mysterious conferences, notably the assembling of a great number of French officers at Wilhelmshohe, possibly have some connection with Prussian plans, which, we may be sure, will in no manner favor a French Republic. In the interest of humanity the civilized will rejoice at the cessation of the bloody, devastating struggle.

THE order of the Canadian Governor of Manitoba to arrest RIEL and his chief followers if they again enter the province, and to shoot them if they offer resistance, does not become their officer. Whatever are RIEL's wrongs, or his crimes, it was understood that he was to be granted full amnesty for what he had done against the Dominion authority. Because this compact was violated, RIEL and his men have made any trouble that they are now engaged in, and it is not right for the Canadians to denounce as an outlaw the man whom their own bad faith has made such.

PHILADELPHIA, too, is to have another census of her population taken by the United States Marshal. Baltimore will next claim the same privilege, and we don't know why it should be denied to Pittsburgh, and so on until almost the entire country is enumerated again. But who is to pay for these new counts, and what authority is there for taking two censuses when the act of Congress provides for only one?

IT is gratifying to know that whatever else is true of NAPOLEON, he is not a poor man in his old age, although M. PIETRI, his private Secretary, has undertaken to make it so appear, and whose statement has brought out another signed "MAX POL." This writer states of his own knowledge that the Emperor has investments amounting to 63,000,000 francs, 10,000,000 of which is on mortgage in New York by BROWN Brothers. So there is no necessity of taking up a subscription just at present.

IN THE country about Santiago de Cuba the Cuban insurgents are very active, showing more boldness and enterprise than at any time since the insurrection began. But the slavery troubles are most likely to prove the embarrassment of the South in the end of the island. The recent emancipation proclamation, as already stated, was meant to be a dead letter, but the authorities are trying to prevent it from becoming so, issuing secret orders to the Sindicos—an official in charge of the slaves—not to free them, however good proof they may bring of their rights to freedom. The status of the *emancipados*—those captured from the slave ship, and held to service is even worse than before. Not only are they now placed under contract for eight years to their former masters, but their "liberty" is taken away from them and put in the master's hands. Such gross outrages, contrary to the pledged word of the rulers of Cuba, will not always be endured uncomplainingly, and the little that may be done for a few of the emancipados, originally intended for the East India trade via the Suez Canal, but has been put into this branch of their line for a short time.

THE Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia *Ledger* that the English Mission business by soberly asserting that "there is some talk of its being offered to Daniel Dougherty, Esq." The Washington dispatch, however, whether "Dan" would consent to leave his business to serve the country in that capacity!

WITH the most open exercise of Government influence in favor of annexation to Canada, the vote in Newfoundland was only 1,985 for that scheme to 1,960 against.

Information has been received that the Malta and Algiers section of the Marseilles, Algiers and Malta telegraph was successfully submerged on the 11th of October.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

On the first instant, the Secretary of the Treasury received the first application to exchange five-twenty bonds, held as securities for the national bank circulation, for new bonds issued under the provisions of the Funding bill. The request came from the First National Bank of Altoona, Pennsylvania, which desires to exchange $110,000 in five-twenties deposited by them recently for an equal amount of bonds bearing five, four and a half and four per cent. interest. The bank will be notified that their application is granted.

A large refrigerator car containing about three tons of beef, arrived at the Hudson River Railroad depot, New York, Tuesday morning, direct from California. When the car was opened the meat was found to be in a splendid state of preservation. The meat thus brought can be sold at one-half the price which is now charged.

A Washington dispatch states that the friends of Senator Morton are urging the President to continue Mr. Motley as Minister to England until the expiration of the present term of the Indiana Legislature, when it is suggested Motley's resignation shall be accepted and Morton appointed. The Indiana Legislature meets immediately, and would elect a Senator in Morton's stead, and the Governor of that State would have the appointment of a man to fill Morton's unexpired term, thus securing the Republicans a Senator for the next two years.

Worthington, Indiana, boasts of a billiard table of the old-fashioned kind, and the only one of the kind in the State. It is a six pocket table twelve feet wide by eighteen feet long, and was manufactured in New Orleans in 1851, and often used as a dancing floor, accommodating two cotillion sets.

This thing of woman's rights may go too far, thought Mrs. Elizabeth Garland, in New York, the other night, when three females knocked her down and robbed her of her watch and tried to cut off her finger to secure a valuable ring.

One of the Jesuit Fathers at Bolen College, Cuba, who devotes much of his time to the study of hurricanes, raises an interference, predicted, five days before their occurrence, the hurricanes in Cuba of October 7th and 19th. The Father predicted a much more serious storm on October 25th. Singularly, the Cuba cable reports that on October 26th a hurricane occurred much more terrific in its effects than any that had taken place for some time. As the prediction was verified only five days later than the time appointed, the measures adopted by the Jesuit Father deserve attention.

In some of the States it is said to be absolutely necessary for a politician to acquire such a knowledge of every secret society that exists. The more "grips" he is acquainted with, and the more "passwords" with which he is familiar, the better his chances for securing votes. Besides the benefit associations, it is advisable, if not imperative, that he become a part and parcel of the benevolent and church societies of his State. Says a correspondent who sketches this matter at length: I apprehend that the time is coming when there will not be one man on end in the United States; not one solitary monument to one's self; not one separate identity, but that all our statesmen shall enter the public arena on the Masonic ram, and go up to fame through successive passwords and a profound knowledge of the proper knuckle to grip in shaking hands at the polls.

In St. Louis there are forty-eight banks and banking institutions, representing an aggregate capital of $37,000,000; fifty-eight fire and life insurance companies; forty incorporated manufactories; fifty-five newspapers; one hundred and twenty-five churches; forty charitable institutions, such as asylums, homes, &c.; twenty-three colleges; five libraries, forty-one public schools; capable of accommodating 15,000 pupils, and that costing $3,000,000; sixty-five schools, private and connected with churches.

It would seem that the rewards at the Cincinnati Industrial Exposition were too widely distributed to afford much satisfaction, even in the fine art department, especially. Nobody got a gold medal, but there was a shower of diplomas and small silver medals. The man who sold the meal presses and seal wax impressions got as much silver as the man who exhibited portraits and dramatic figures. An artist gets only a diploma for portraits, while the person who engraves door and copper plates, cuts off a silver medal. The mechanic who makes the picture frames has a bigger medal than most of those who compose the picture to be put into them. A worker in women's back hair has greater reward than he who has interwoven Ophelia and her wet locks. And so it comes that there is no peace, and a wicked wagging of tongues.

It is wonderful to observe how feeble authority, especially in Scotland, is still asserted and submitted to. Lately, in Dumfries, the Duke of Buccleuch, through only a single vote for the Tory candidate for the House of Commons.

The silver mines of Nevada are found to be exceedingly prolific and apparently inexhaustible. The total for 1870 will reach $20,000,000 in ore yields, after being milled, from $2,000 to $3,000 per ton; while some will yield $1,000, and some only $300. The richest deposits are said to be in Eko county.

Of what that can be done for illegitimate and abandoned infants, the *Medical Gazette* thinks, will ultimately be found in the adoption of the "cottage system;" in the abandonment of large asylums and hospitals, and the erection, in the suburbs of each town, of small and inexpensive structures—little sanitary villages, so to speak—in the pure air beyond the city limits. The Cottage Hospital at Ventnor, England, has been found to work admirably in the case of adults, and is similarly adapted to the rearing of infants, under such careful management as that of the Nursery and Child's hospital, would incalculably reduce the death rate of asylum infants, as it has done in adults.

A Shanghae circular of September 8 says: "The chief feature of interest during the last fortnight has been the unexpected rising of the Yangtse to a higher level than has been experienced since the year 1849. The floods are nearly two feet higher than the flood of last year, but still six inches less than 1849, and three feet less than 1848. In those years the Honan, Honan and Soochuen waters arrived at their full height simultaneously with the consequence of local heavy rains. This year the floods have been entirely owing to the effect of Soochuen waters, which commenced passing Ichang on the 20th of July, causing the destruction of a vast quantity of property and three to four thousand people. This year the effect of the flood, as felt locally, will be about as disastrous as last summer's."

The new married woman's property law in England has come into force. "Married women are hereafter her own; a policy of insurance is her own; she may sue and be sued separately; a husband is not liable for his wife's anti-marriage debts.

The recent heavy gales have been unusually severe this season, and we have to record a very large amount of damage to American shipping. The total losses amount to $236,000, comprising a total of 66 vessels of all classes. There have been lost during the past month 9 steamers, 8 ships, 7 barks, 14 brigs, 28 schooners. Of these 37 were wrecked, 8 burned, 15 abandoned and 1 sunk by collision, 9 foundered, and 9 missing and not heard from. Of this large list 13 of all classes belong to New York. This estimate of losses does not include cargoes.

Now comes Bayfield, claiming that it should be the Lake Superior commercial emporium. A table kept since 1858, showing the time of opening and closing of the Superior, or Duluth and Bayfield harbors, shows that the season of navigation at the latter place averages thirty-five days. Vessels can enter Bayfield harbor at any time, when there are only nine miles between New York, and seventy miles nearer San Francisco, than at Chicago.

A semi-official announcement is made that an attempt by American citizens at a private settlement with the British Government, of Alabama claims, is a violation of law, which will be punished.

After a long examination, the application for an extension of the Singer Sewing Machine patent has been refused. Two million dollars of protection will thus be taken off the manufacturer of machines using the Singer improvement, and a reduction in the price of all kinds of sewing machines will be effected, amounting to at least fifteen dollars on each instrument.

The minor performing horses brought from $200 to $375.

The effect of peace upon the money market of London is what excites the most profound interest. The appearance of money in London is what influences the shipments of specie from this country. Any material stringency there from whatever cause, may cause a renewal of the shipment of coin at a time when it will be both inconvenient nor advantageous. The opinion is by no means unanimous as to what the effect of peace will be, the best judgments agreeing, however, that the London market will suffer a severe depletion.

When the war broke out from 3,000 to 4,000 German ships were either at sea or in foreign ports, and although not many of them have suffered capture, since all ships were immediately ordered to seek harbor or perish, the loss occasioned by the locking up of all these vessels will amount to millions. Public meetings recently held in Germany have very generally insisted on remuneration from the French, on the conclusion of peace, for the damage thus done to German commerce.

Col. Buckmaster, of Alton, is part owner of a large farm, near Westfield, Clark county, Illinois, upon this farm the colonel has an oil well 1,150 feet deep, which yields several barrels per week of excellent oil, with which experiments are now being made to ascertain what it is best adapted for. There is also upon the farm another well, 40 feet deep, from which a vast amount of gas is constantly escaping, and has been for a year past. The gas is perfectly adapted for illuminating purposes, just as it escapes from the pit. The colonel has installed this gas in the house of the boss in which he keeps his pet, so that the greater part of the year it is sufficiently cool enough remaining to show its character. The Doctor says that before this injury was sustained, which he received in the explosion, by a light, a child could plainly be seen enclosed in a bottle, but now he can only take glimpses. He have been the poison which so quickly summoned his trusted friend from the scene of his earthly exploits.

The snake has grown about seven inches since it was killed—a fact which the owner of it lied to its capture had seen it a few weeks before and describes it as then but about two feet in length and two inches in girth. It is examined by naturalists a short time after he obtained possession of it, and they pronounced it a snake of the species known as the "hoop," and reach a length of twelve or fourteen feet before it attains its growth.

The only solid food which it has taken during the last three months, is a rat which it killed after the appointed time for its instructors by crushing it in its folds, and then swallowing it whole. The Doctor and his family, will doubtless have a good deal of fun with it, and if they will cough and laugh they have a remedy at hand.

The reptile was a small much attention among the naturalists by whom it has been seen, who confess themselves very much at a loss to account for its appearance. It is certainly now known species of the serpent family.

Genuine
Howe Sewing Machine, No. 4 St. Clair street.